

IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of San Luis Obispo, State of California

_____ day _____, 20__

PRESENT: Supervisors

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE POLICIES TO GOVERN THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE COUNTY HIGHWAY SYSTEM

The following Resolution is hereby offered and read:

WHEREAS, the County highway system serves the people of this County and is essential to provide a safe, healthy, livable, prosperous and well governed community; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to enhance mobility throughout the County, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors in accordance with the California State Streets and Highways Code Section 940 has general supervision, management, and control of the County highways, and

WHEREAS, the County highway system represents a significant investment in County resources over the years including:

- Over 1,300 miles of paved and unpaved roads,
 - Over 60 miles of Class 2 bike lanes,
 - Over 187 bridges,
 - Over 18 signalized intersections,
 - Over 1,200 ADA curb ramps,
 - Over 12 flood control basins for road drainage,
 - Over 4,600 under road drainage culverts
- and other roadway facilities; and

WHEREAS, the County has limited funds for highway maintenance, improvements, and betterments and does not have the funds to perform all the work it would perform if it had unlimited resources; and

WHEREAS, the County's goal is to use its limited funds in a reasonable manner that maximizes the public benefit; and

WHEREAS, the proposed "POLICIES TO GOVERN THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE COUNTY HIGHWAY SYSTEM" sets forth a reasonable approach to using these limited funds available to reach this goal; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Title 2.18 of the County Code all of the responsibilities identified in the State Codes for road commissioner, county engineer, and director of transportation have been assigned by the Board of Supervisors to the Director of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, it is prudent for the Director of Public Works to prioritize the transportation funding and resources in order to optimize the level of service provided by County highways; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that the attached Exhibit "A" be adopted as Policies to Govern the Operation and Maintenance of the County Highway System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors hereby finds and resolves:

1. Each and every "WHEREAS" statement, above is incorporated herein and made an express finding hereof; and
2. Exhibit "A," attached hereto and incorporated herein as though fully set forth, entitled Policies to Govern the Operation and Maintenance of the County Highway System (Policy) is approved; and
3. The Director of Public Works or his designee is hereby authorized to undertake all actions necessary to implement the attached Policy.

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAINING:

the foregoing Resolution is hereby adopted.

Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

By: 
Deputy County Counsel

Dated: September 21, 2015

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA, }
County of San Luis Obispo, } ss.

I, _____, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors, in and for the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, do hereby certify
the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of an order made by the Board of Supervisors, as the same
appears spread upon their minute book.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Board of Supervisors, affixed this _____
day of _____, 20 _____.

(SEAL)

County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board
of Supervisors

By _____
Deputy Clerk.

Exhibit A

POLICIES TO GOVERN THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE COUNTY HIGHWAY SYSTEM

Since the County has limited funds for highway maintenance, improvements, and betterments and does not have the funds to perform all the work it would perform if it had unlimited resources, staff efforts and Road Fund allocations for the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the County highway system shall be prioritized as follows:

I GENERAL HIGHWAY SAFETY

A. Road Maintenance *(first priority)*

A well maintained County highway system, particularly one which provides good driving surfaces, promotes road safety by reducing opportunities for roadway collisions and injuries and also by reducing the frequency for maintenance crews to occupy the roadway. Furthermore, a well maintained County highway system requires less funding and fewer County resources when compared to poorly maintained highways; which ultimately frees up resources for other uses.

1. Pavement Management: Public Works shall prepare and regularly update a pavement management plan. This plan shall use current technology and best practices to maximize the level of service to the public, optimize the pavement condition of the overall County highway system and minimize the maintenance and operation cost. The pavement management goals for each year should be included as part of the annual budget review and approval process.
2. Bridge Maintenance: Maintain the County bridges in a safe and usable condition. Structurally deficient bridges should be addressed or replaced.
3. Per Resolution 2007-344, limit adding new streets to the County maintained system to areas serving high density commercial or residential development.
4. Consider terminating or abandoning County maintenance on roads serving fewer than five occupied parcels through the appropriate statutory procedures.
5. Sidewalks shall be maintained in accordance with the Streets and Highway Code.
6. Compliance with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) at existing intersections shall be funded by the County per the adopted Title II Transition Plan for public rights-of-way.

B. Road Improvements *(second priority)*

The aim is for the overall collision rate for the County highway system to be below the overall State collision rate. A priority shall be placed on those projects that:

1. Reduce collision rates below State average
2. Improve roadway sight distance
3. Provide lighting for identified roadway safety needs
4. Address identified Safe Route to School needs as primary focus for grant applications.
5. Drainage projects that improve road surface conditions

II ROADWAY BETTERMENTS *(third priority)*

In addition to roadway safety and maintenance needs, there are other desired improvements or betterments to the County highway system that promise to offer an improved level of service to the public. These should typically be addressed as follows:

- A. Upgrading roads, including paving gravel roads, should be funded by the affected property owners under the Board of Supervisor's adopted Cooperative Road Program; which are developed through County Service Area 21.
- B. Increasing roadway capacity or providing additional access to mitigate cumulative impacts from development shall be funded by development through one of the County's Road Improvement Fee programs.
- C. The following types of projects should be funded through outside grants sources such as ATP, CMAQ, and RSHA grant programs.
 1. Develop and improve bikeways (per the County Bikeways Plan)
 2. Implement downtown streetscape projects
 3. Construct pedestrian routes
 4. Construct "Complete Streets" Projects
- D. Maintenance for street lighting, landscaping, and other non-transportation street features shall be funded outside of the road fund. Inclusion of these amenities within the County right-of-way will require funding and maintenance by the local community via a community services district, a community services organization, a non-profit agency, or other community group.

III Road Design

Design standards for road construction are intended to promote safety and to reduce the maintenance demand on County resources. Therefore new roads or improvements to existing roads in the County maintained system shall conform to the Public Improvement Standards adopted by the Board of Supervisors. Deviations from these standards should only be allowed after proper documentation for a design exception and when approved by the Director of Public Works or his designee.